

March 2002

From the Editor. . .

Welcome to our March newsletter, which highlights recent LLNL activities and related upcoming events. We have designed this monthly message as a way to share information with our neighboring community, and we hope that you find it helpful.



[University of California](#)



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Science 2002 Lecture Series Journeys To Tracy

Laboratory physicist Dr. John White will be the final presenter of the Science 2002 lecture series with a talk on the 'Physics of Baseball' on Thursday, March 21, at the Tracy Community Center in Tracy. Utilizing simple physics concepts and basic demonstrations, Dr. White will discuss the science of the perfect baseball swing, and also provide a better understanding of the unique role of science in sports.



Dr. John White

The Tracy Community Center is located at 300 East 10th Street in downtown Tracy. Dr. White's talk will begin at 7:30 p.m., and it is free and open to the public. For directions to the Tracy Community Center, or more information on the Science 2002 Lecture Series go to www.llnl.gov/llnl/06news/Community/lecture.html

Laboratory's BASIS Biodetection System Used at Winter Olympics

The Biological Aerosol Sentry and Information System (BASIS), developed by researchers at LLNL and Los Alamos National Laboratory, was part of

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Researchers collaborated on BASIS.

the vast security network in place at last month's Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah.

BASIS consists of a network of air sampling units capable of detecting airborne biological incidents at gatherings such as political conventions and major sporting events. Aerosols are captured and then analyzed for safety in a transportable field laboratory using DNA-based techniques validated by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

To learn more about BASIS see **Recent Headlines** below.

Laboratory Rated "Outstanding" By NNSA

The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) gave the Laboratory an overall rating of "outstanding" following its annual assessment which covered the period of Oct. 1, 2000 to Sept. 30, 2001. NNSA's comprehensive assessment included appraisals of the Laboratory's performance in the areas of institutional Laboratory management, science and technology, and operations and administration.

"This year's scores reflect the critical role the Lab continues to play in the changing demands of national security", said Jeff Wadsworth, deputy director of Science and Technology. "We continue to prove ourselves as a world leader in science and technology, with the highest standards in operations and management as well. Every single employee contributed to these outcomes, and we can all be proud of what the Lab has achieved."

For more information see **Recent Headlines** below, or go to <http://www.llnl.gov/llnl/06news/NewsReleases/2002/NR-02-02-09.html>

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Laboratory Pursuing OPCW Certification

The Laboratory has passed another milestone in its quest to be designated as the second U.S. facility to conduct tests under the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty. Tests conducted on three "blind" chemical samples by Laboratory researchers received an "A" grade from the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).

Located in The Hague, Netherlands, the OPCW is responsible for implementing the Chemical Weapons Convention treaty, which has been ratified by the United States and more than 135 other nations. With ratification, the U.S. Senate specified that all samples taken by OPCW inspectors at U.S. chemical plants must be tested in the U.S. Currently, the only other U.S. laboratory certified for this work is the Edgewood Chemical and Biological Forensic Analytical Center in Maryland.

For more on the OPCW story see **Recent Headlines** below.

Kiernan Earns Livermore Chamber Award for Education Outreach

Laboratory employee Karen Kiernan, special projects manager in the Laboratory's Public Affairs Office, was awarded the Livermore Chamber of Commerce's 2001 Education Award for her long-time support of education in the Livermore community. Kiernan received the award at the Chamber's recent annual installation dinner and community awards gala.

The Chamber particularly noted Kiernan's vital role in the highly successful Tri-Valley Science and Engineering Fair. The Fair will conclude its sixth year later this month. She was also responsible for the Laboratory's refurbishment of the Granada High School machine



Karen Kiernan

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shop, and has also helped local community colleges receive more than \$1.2 million in grant funding.

The Laboratory congratulates Karen on this much-deserved honor.

Laboratory Neighbors Meeting Feedback

On January 31 the Laboratory hosted an informational meeting for its closest neighbors. The primary purpose of this meeting was to inform them about security issues here at the Laboratory. Several of the 150 attendees submitted questions to the senior lab managers present. In this, and subsequent *Community Newsletters*, we will provide responses to some of those questions.



Question:

Do you have an in-house incident response team for cyber threats?

Answer:

Yes. Founded in 1989, the Department of Energy (DOE) Computer Incident Advisory Center (CIAC) is one of the two oldest computer response teams in the nation. CIAC is located on site, and is staffed by Laboratory employees. This group of skilled computer security specialists services not only LLNL, but all of the other DOE laboratories. CIAC also helps federal law-enforcement agencies like the FBI.

The principal focus of these specialists are intrusions and malicious code, such as worms, viruses and denial-of-service attacks. The general public can take advantage of this expertise by visiting the CIAC website at <http://www.ciac.org/ciac>, known as the "home of the hoaxbusters".

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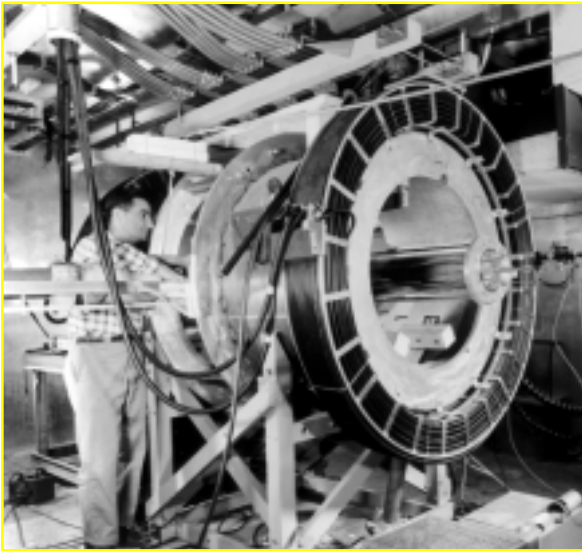


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New Laboratory 50th Anniversary Website



A new website featuring a comprehensive timeline of the Laboratory's history is now available online. The timeline, arranged by decade, includes a variety of pictures, stories, news articles and quicktime movies on the people and events that have shaped the Laboratory over the past half-century. To view this fact-filled website go to www.llnl.gov/timeline.

An early machine at the Laboratory, called Table Top, is used to explore magnetic mirrors to confine hot plasmas for fusion energy. More historical details are available on the Lab's timeline.

Laboratory Visitors Center and Tours

Please stop by our Visitors Center to learn more about the Laboratory's mission and programs. The Visitors Center is located on Greenville Road at the Eastgate entrance to the Laboratory. It is open Monday-Friday, 1-4 p.m. For more information about the Visitors Center or tours, please call (925) 422-4599.

Laboratory TV Show

"Technology Today," a television program designed to help inform our neighbors about activities at both Lawrence Livermore and Sandia national labo-

**We Want
Your
Ideas**

Your ideas on how we can improve this newsletter, or our Laboratory programs, are welcomed.

Please forward any comments or questions you may have to Scott Wilson (925) 423-3125, wilson101@llnl.gov.



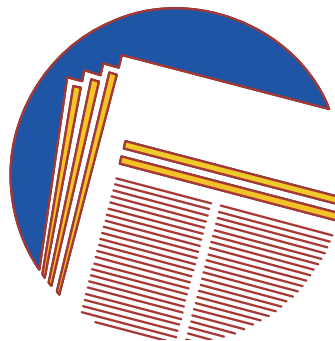
ratories, airs each Monday evening at 8:30 on the Tri-Valley's community television station, Channel 30. If you have a topic that you'd like to see discussed on "Technology Today," please contact us at (925) 422-3138.

Recent Headlines

You may be interested in these recent articles from the Laboratory's weekly newspaper, *Newsline*. These stories can be viewed by visiting the Public Affairs Website at

<http://www.llnl.gov/llnl/06news/Employee/2001index.html>

Call or e-mail us if you would like more information.



- Astronaut duo lands at Laboratory (Feb. 1, 2002)
- Lab efforts a BASIS for security (Feb. 8, 2002)
- Lab looks into expansion of biodetection capabilities (Feb. 8, 2002)
- New thin-film fuel cell packs powerful boost for consumer electronics (Feb. 15, 2002)
- Lab earns overall grade of outstanding for science, management, operations (Feb. 15, 2002)
- Lasers point way to astronomical phenomena (Feb. 15, 2002)
- Marburger outlines science priorities (Feb. 22, 2002)
- Lab reaches another milestone in U.S. effort to counter chemical weapons (Feb. 22, 2002)
- Lab researcher's innovative work recognized (Feb. 22, 2002)

